

INFORMATION LETTER

Not for
Publication

NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION

For Members
Only

No. 1047

Washington, D. C.

July 28, 1945

SENATE VOTES AMERICAN PARTICIPATION IN FAO

Functions, Structure and Operations of Organization Detailed in Committee Report

By voice vote, taken last week after the INFORMATION LETTER had gone to press, the Senate voted for United States adherence to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization. Senate action passed House Joint Resolution 145, previously passed by the House on April 30 (see INFORMATION LETTER No. 1035, page 8615). In last week's LETTER it was stated that the State Department expected the first formal meeting of FAO will be held in the fall.

The resolution provides that the United States shall assume 25 per cent of the costs of the organization, at least at the outset, and authorizes an appropriation of \$625,000 for the first year, and not to exceed \$1,250,000 each year thereafter.

FAO is the outgrowth of the United Nations Conference on Food and Agriculture held at Hot Springs, Va., two years ago. According to the report of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, it is primarily a world-wide instrumentality for pooling the best knowledge and experience relating to nutrition, agricultural production and marketing, and the best use of farm, fishery and forestry resources. Excerpts from the House Foreign Affairs Committee report, reproduced below, give the background of FAO, its functions, how it would operate, structure of the organization and obligations of membership.

Background of the Development

In February, 1943, President Roosevelt invited the United and Associated Nations to a Conference on Food and Agriculture which was held at Hot Springs, Va., in May of the same year. This meeting, and the work of an Interim Commission which grew out of it, resulted in the formulation of a proposed constitution for an organization to be known as the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. The Interim Commission submitted the constitution to the 44 Nations in August, 1944. Since that time 20 nations have announced their intention to accept the constitution and be-

(Concluded on page 8716)

Food Stocks Investigated

Secretary of Agriculture Anderson announced July 26 that he is investigating inventories of the stocks purchased by the Commodity Credit Corporation for various government agencies. The Secretary declared his purpose is to ascertain "what we have, where it is, and what condition it's in".

The investigation was prompted, he stated, by some 12-000 discrepancies found when comparison was made between two conflicting reports of CCC holdings, one by CCC itself; the other by the General Accounting Office.

Luther Hodges, vice-president of Marshall Field and Co., has been summoned to make the investigation and 55 accountants and auditors from various branches of USDA are working on the job. Prospects are that the investigation will take some 45 days, it was stated.

REDUCED CEILINGS FOR FRUITS IN LIGHT SYRUP

For Fancy and Choice Packs Prices Will be Less than Last Year's Heavy Syrup Ceilings

Processors' ceiling prices for Fancy and Choice fruits of the 1945 crop that must be packed in light syrup because of the sugar shortage will be less than the processors' ceiling prices set last year for those fruits packed in extra heavy and heavy syrups, according to the Office of Price Administration.

On June 15, OPA announced that the amounts of sugar commercial canners may use "per unit" of fruits and vegetables had been reduced about 20 per cent below the amount used last year. The amount of sugar available for commercial canners in most instances will not permit the heavy and extra heavy syrups, normally used for Choice and Fancy fruits. The use of light syrups, however, will permit volume production of canned fruits to be continued, it was stated.

(Concluded on page 8718)

BILL PROPOSES CONTROL OF WAGES AT ALL LEVELS

Senate Measure Amending Fair Labor Standards Act Would Make Fundamental Changes

The likelihood of intensive Congressional consideration next fall of the proposed amendments to the Fair Labor Standards Act was foreshadowed last week by the prompt endorsement of these proposals by the CIO Political Action Committee. In announcing the PAC support of S. 1282, Sidney Hillman chairman of the Committee indicated that PAC would launch an intensive campaign including mass meetings and the distribution of pamphlets, leaflets, and posters in support of the bill.

A summary of the principal features of these proposed amendments was given in last week's INFORMATION LETTER on page 8701. Analysis reveals that these fall into two categories: Changes in the existing law constituting principally elimination of the statutory exemptions and substantial increases in the applicable minimum wage; and additions to the existing statute which fundamentally extend its coverage and in effect change it from a minimum wage law to a law permitting Federal regulation of all wage levels.

Changes in Existing Law

The most significant change is an increase in the minimum hourly rate which must be paid by any employer engaged in commerce from the present 40 cents an hour to 75 cents an hour. As S. 1282 is drafted, it appears to be intended to increase the minimum hourly wage rate to 65 cents during the first year after enactment, 70 cents during the second year, and 75 cents per hour thereafter.

Canners of fruits and vegetables will be vitally concerned with the elimination of two statutory exemptions. The controversial "area of production" exemption from both the maximum hour and minimum wage provisions of the law, which is contained in Section 13(a)(10), is to be eliminated. Since the enactment of the Fair Labor Standards Act in 1938 the Administrator has issued a series of increasingly restrictive definitions of the controlling phrase "area of production." In June,

1944, the United States Supreme Court held one of these definitions invalid. (See INFORMATION LETTER No. 989, June 10, 1944, page 8256.) Since that time further proposed definitions have been suggested and administrative hearings have been held. These were reviewed in INFORMATION LETTER No. 1020, March 3, 1945, page 8541. If S. 1282 is enacted, as proposed, the entire "area of production" exemption from both maximum hour and minimum wage provisions will be taken out of the statute.

The second and possibly most important statutory exemption which is proposed to be eliminated is that affording an unlimited 14 weeks' exemption from the overtime provisions of section 7. This exemption is now contained in section 7(c) of the Act and affords to canners of perishable or seasonal fresh fruits or vegetables a 14 weeks' exemption in the aggregate. Hours of work in such exempt weeks are unlimited. This exemption was provided by Congress and was not the result of administrative discretionary action. It is proposed in S. 1282 to eliminate it completely.

It will be recalled that when the Administrator narrowly construed the "area of production" total exemption, he also provided an additional 14 weeks' exemption from overtime by ruling that the canning of fruits and vegetables was a "seasonal" industry under section 7(b)(3) of the law. This section affords a limited exemption from the overtime requirements for an aggregate of 14 workweeks, but requires that overtime be paid in excess of 12 hours in any workday or for any work in excess of 56 hours in any workweek. This existing 7(b)(3) exemption resulted from administrative action. S. 1282 does not change the administrative authority for this exemption, but the Administrator is always free to restrict its coverage.

Accordingly, if S. 1282 is enacted, the maximum exemption from overtime will be restricted to 14 workweeks in the calendar year under section 7(b)(3) instead of the 28 weeks now permitted under both section 7(c) and 7(b)(3).

With respect to canned fish and other marine products, the existing exemption from both the minimum wage and maximum hour provisions contained in section 13(a)(5) of the statute is to be narrowly restricted. In the present law the exemption includes "employment in . . . processing, marketing, freezing, canning, curing, storing, or distributing" such products. S. 1282 would limit this exemption to employees engaged in catching or tak-

ing fish or other marine life. No employees engaged in canning would be exempt. At the present time the Administrator is conducting a series of informal conferences to determine the coverage of the existing exemption in the case of processed fish products. Enactment of S. 1282 would make these inquiries academic and destroy the exemption for processing employees. Conceivably, the Administrator might thereafter rule that certain fish-processing activities were seasonal and afford an exemption from the overtime provisions under section 7(b)(3). But such action would be discretionary with the Administrator.

In this same connection, the existing law exempts from both the wage and hour provisions any employee working as a seaman. Such employees would be brought within the statute by S. 1282. In addition, while housing and board furnished to employees may ordinarily be counted as wages in determining whether the minimum hourly rate is paid, S. 1282 provides specifically that this shall not be true in the case of members of a crew of a vessel.

Proposed Control of All Wage Levels

The most significant change in the existing Federal control of wages, proposed by S. 1282, is the authority granted to the Administrator to establish "job classifications" and minimum wage rates for each such job classification. In short, the proposed minimum wage of 75 cents an hour is to apply only to "unskilled job classifications." These are defined as any job "which does not require previous training or experience." The existing law requires an employer to pay not less than the minimum prescribed wage to every employee, but does not concern itself with job classifications, wage differentials, or any level of wages above the minimum. S. 1282 would convert the existing law from a minimum wage law into substantially a statute permitting wide control of all wages for all job classifications (other than administrative, professional, and executive) in any industry or in any part of an industry.

The device offered to accomplish this increased scope of control is the so-called Wage Order under section 8. These Wage Orders were originally designed to permit accelerated reaching of the 40-cent wage level. The Fair Labor Standards Act originally provided in 1938 for a minimum of 25 cents for the first year, 30 cents for the next six years, and 40 cents thereafter. The Wage Order provisions were designed to enable the Administrator to prescribe the 40-cent level sooner than the seven years. In other words, Wage

Orders were to operate only between the 25-cent and 40-cent levels and only during the period between the date of enactment and the time when all minimum wages would have to be at the 40-cent level.

Under the existing law, Wage Orders originate with what is called an "Industry Committee." This committee holds hearings and makes recommendations to the Administrator. The Administrator may accept the recommendations or disapprove them and appoint a new committee to make further recommendations. In no case has any Wage Order of the Administrator been overruled by the courts. Indeed, the United States Supreme Court has held that supplementary conditions attached to a Wage Order may go so far as to prohibit a particular type of employment if the Administrator finds that this is necessary to effectuate the wage order. In *Gmco, Inc. v. Walling*, 324 U. S. 244, decided in February, 1945, the Court held that the Administrator could lawfully, as part of a Wage Order, prohibit all industrial home work in the embroidery industry. The theory of the Court was that such additions to a Wage Order were designed to insure that the minimum wage would be paid.

More important, these decisions relating to Wage Orders under section 8 made it clear that, despite the original purpose, a Wage Order could continue in effect even after the original seven years had expired.

This judicial interpretation of the existing law forms the background for the proposed broadening of the statute. S. 1282 adds to the powers of the Industry Committee to recommend and of the Administrator to adopt what are called "reasonable job classifications within such industry or subdivision thereof." The preamble to the law is changed to list among the Congressional objectives the desire

"to provide for the maintenance of reasonable wage differentials between interrelated job classifications in such industries."

The Administrator and the Industry Committee may divide an industry into subdivisions. The Committee may recommend and the Administrator may adopt for his order any definition of an industry or a subdivision, and fix minimum wage rates for each job classification established for each subdivision of an industry.

No subdivision may be made solely on a regional basis, but the proposed bill permits a subdivision of an industry to be made on the basis of like competitive conditions, related collec-

tive labor agreements, or related employer practices.

The Industry Committee may recommend and the Administrator may adopt

"minimum wage rates for . . . job classifications (other than unskilled job classifications) as it determines to be necessary for the purpose of maintaining reasonable wage differentials between "the minimum wage recommended . . . for unskilled job classifications and the wage rates for interrelated job classifications in such industry or subdivision thereof."

Although the new bill is silent on the question as to how long such job classifications and prescribed minimum wages for them shall remain in effect, it seems abundantly clear that the intention is to utilize Supreme Court decisions as the basis for the view that they are to remain permanently in effect. The Administrator, of course, may change them from time to time.

In short, S. 1282 affords the authority for the Administrator by Wage Order to supplement the statutory minimum hourly rate of 75 cents. This 75-cent minimum would apply only to wholly unskilled labor. The Administrator may determine what job classifications above the 75-cent minimum for unskilled labor shall be established for the whole or any part of any industry and may prescribe what the higher minimum hourly wage rate for each such classification should be. It is true that he may do so only upon the recommendation of an Industry Committee, but it is further provided that

"If the Administrator disapproves such recommendations, he shall again refer the matter to such Committee, or to another Industry Committee for such industry (which he may appoint for such purpose), for further consideration and recommendations."

Under these proposals, if enacted, the Administrator might establish a series of job classifications for fruit and vegetable or fish processing in various parts of the country and prescribe the minimum hourly wage rate for each such classification with such regional differences as he deems necessary.

It is interesting to note that S. 1282 contains no provisions dealing with a number of proposals which have been of employer concern in the administration of the existing law. Among these is the general question of piecework and the relation of a piecework system to the maintenance of the required minimum hourly wage. Necessarily, if job classifications are to be established for wage groups above the proposed new classification of unskilled labor, the problems connected with piece work methods of pay will increase in difficulty. In addition, despite nu-

merous Supreme Court decisions concerning the absence of any statute of limitations on employee suits under section 16(b) of the Act, no provision providing for a reasonable standard of limitations has been proposed in the bill.

Report on Tax-Exempt Group Study to be Ready in October

Colin F. Stam, chief of the legislative staff of tax experts, said July 25 that his study of organizations exempt from Federal income taxation under Section 101 of the Internal Revenue Code had practically ended and that his fact-finding report would be ready on or before October 8—when Congress will reconvene—for consideration by the Joint Committee on Internal Revenue.

What Mr. Stam and his associates may have found in examining reports from the estimated 300,000 cooperative associations, labor unions, boards of trade, chambers of commerce, trade associations and other tax-exempt organizations is not to be made public until after members of the Joint Committee have studied the findings. Even then, it will be made public only upon order of the Committee chairman, Senator George, of Georgia. This means that the Stam study will not result in publicity for at least two months, or possibly longer.

The study is the first comprehensive investigation by tax authorities into the affairs of such organizations. Its purpose is legislative; that is, to serve as a basis for levying taxes on profits of tax-exempt business conducted in competition with private business which pays the full scale of present heavy rates.

When the report is rendered the Joint Committee will study it with a view to recommending legislation to tax many of the present tax-exempts. This legislation must originate in the House.

Freight Revision Time Extended

An extra period of three months was granted July 25 by the Interstate Commerce Commission to the nation's railroads, for the preparation of the temporary freight rate adjustments ordered by the ICC May 15, and reported in INFORMATION LETTER No. 1038, for May 26, page 8633.

Carriers had asked that the deadline of August 30 be extended to April 1 of next year. This was refused by ICC, an extension to November 30 this year being granted instead.

August Ration Point Values

Ration point values for August were changed by the Office of Price Administration on the canned fruits and vegetables, and in the sizes shown in the following table which shows the old and new point values:

	Old	New
Apples:		
14 oz. to 1 lb. 2 oz.	10	20
1 lb. 2 oz. to 1 lb. 6 oz.	10	20
1 lb. 6 oz. to 2 lbs.	20	30
2 lbs. to 3 lbs.	40	50
No. 10.	80	120
Applesauce:		
14 oz. to 1 lb. 2 oz.	10	20
1 lb. 2 oz. to 1 lb. 6 oz.	10	20
1 lb. 6 oz. to 2 lbs.	20	30
2 lbs. to 3 lbs.	40	50
No. 10.	80	130
Apricots:		
10 oz. to 14 oz.	10	20
14 oz. to 1 lb. 2 oz.	20	30
1 lb. 2 oz. to 1 lb. 6 oz.	20	30
1 lb. 6 oz. to 2 lbs.	30	50
2 lbs. to 3 lbs.	50	60
No. 10.	120	200
Grapefruit juice:		
Up to 7 oz.	10	2 for 10
7 oz. to 10 oz.	10	2 for 10
10 oz. to 14 oz.	10	2 for 10
14 oz. to 1 lb. 2 oz.	10	2 for 10
1 lb. 2 oz. to 1 lb. 6 oz.	10	2 for 10
1 lb. 6 oz. to 2 lbs.	20	2 for 10
2 lbs. to 3 lbs.	20	10
No. 10.	40	20
Orange-grapefruit juice blend:		
Up to 7 oz.	10	2 for 10
7 oz. to 10 oz.	10	2 for 10
10 oz. to 14 oz.	10	2 for 10
14 oz. to 1 lb. 2 oz.	10	2 for 10
1 lb. 2 oz. to 1 lb. 6 oz.	10	2 for 10
1 lb. 6 oz. to 2 lbs.	20	2 for 10
2 lbs. to 3 lbs.	20	10
No. 10.	40	20
Asparagus:		
10 oz. to 14 oz.	10	20
14 oz. to 1 lb. 2 oz.	20	30
1 lb. 2 oz. to 1 lb. 6 oz.	20	30
1 lb. 6 oz. to 2 lbs.	30	50
2 lbs. to 3 lbs.	50	60
No. 10.	130	190
Corn No. 10.	100	130
Spinach:		
10 oz. to 14 oz.	10	20
14 oz. to 1 lb. 2 oz.	20	30
1 lb. 2 oz. to 1 lb. 6 oz.	20	30
1 lb. 6 oz. to 2 lbs.	30	50
2 lbs. to 3 lbs.	40	60
No. 10.	120	180
Tomato catsup:		
Up to 7 oz.	10	2 for 10
7 oz. to 10 oz.	10	2 for 10
10 oz. to 14 oz.	20	10
14 oz. to 1 lb. 2 oz.	30	20
1 lb. 2 oz. to 1 lb. 6 oz.	40	30
1 lb. 6 oz. to 2 lbs.	50	40
2 lbs. to 3 lbs.	60	50
No. 10.	210	140

Canning Courses Authorized

Governor Earl Warren of California has signed Senate bills No. 19 and No. 926 which set up courses of instruction in food processing and establish funds to carry them out.

Senate Bill No. 19 establishes such courses at University of California at Davis and appropriates \$500,000 for the purposes of erecting and equipping buildings to house the courses. Senate Bill No. 926 appropriates \$30,000 immediately for the purpose of drawing up plans and specifications for the buildings and equipment deemed necessary.

PEAS FOR PROCESSING

BAE Reports an Indicated Production 9 Per Cent Over Previous Record 1942 Figure

The July 15 indicated production of 462,780 tons of green peas for processing exceeds by 9 per cent the previous record high production of 423,910 tons obtained in 1942, according to a report issued this week by the U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics. The tonnage now in prospect for 1945 compares with 380,000 tons produced in 1944 and an average of 287,270 tons for the preceding 10-year (1934-43) period.

On July 15 the indicated yield was 1,804 pounds per acre. This compares with 1,739 pounds harvested in 1944 and an average for the preceding 10-year (1934-43) period of 1,694 pounds. In 1942, the year of the previous record-high production, a yield of 1,953 pounds was obtained. Hot dry winds in Oregon and Washington during the last few days of June and early July reduced the prospective yields in these States but in most of the other important States conditions for maturing the crop continued to improve and better than average yields are indicated.

The following table shows the indicated 1945 production as compared with the actual 1944 production, by States:

State	1944 Tons	1945 Tons
Maine.....	4,350	4,680
New York.....	39,500	45,590
New Jersey.....	3,990	4,100
Pennsylvania.....	15,170	24,750
Ohio.....	4,210	6,040
Indiana.....	3,640	10,360
Illinois.....	12,310	20,400
Michigan.....	8,470	11,120
Wisconsin.....	114,400	138,510
Minnesota.....	18,480	42,270
Iowa.....	1,720	3,500
Maryland.....	10,650	13,020
Delaware.....	2,070	3,150
Virginia.....	1,000	1,940
Colorado.....	4,350	4,500
Utah.....	24,300	22,820
Washington.....	48,440	46,500
Oregon.....	46,220	41,760
California.....	4,330	4,470
Other States.....	11,800	13,340
Total.....	380,000	462,780

Tomatoes in Cannery Hands

Civilian stocks of canned tomatoes in canners' hands totaled 63,513 cases on July 1, 1945, according to a report issued by the Association's Division of Statistics, based on reports from canners who packed about 75 per cent of the 1944 pack, together with estimates for those not reporting. These stocks represent the carryover from the 1944 pack and do not include stocks of the 1945 pack.

Civilian Canned Bean Stocks

Stocks of canned green beans in canners' hands on July 1, 1945, totaled 20,607 cases, and canned wax beans amounted to 1,771 cases. These figures are compiled by the Association's Division of Statistics and are based on reports from canners who packed about 70 per cent of the 1944 pack, together with estimates for those not reporting. The stocks quoted represent the carryover from the 1945 pack and do not include stocks of the 1945 pack.

Surplus Property Disposition

Members of the Association are requested to bring to the attention of the Compliance Division of the Surplus Property Board any information that would be helpful in bringing about proper disposition of surplus property. The request is made in a letter directed to the Association by Robert T. Amis, director of the Compliance Division of the Board, inviting information that would help avoid irregularities, favoritism in sales policies and the like.

N. C. A. Laboratory, in Meetings with Cannerymen, Taking Steps to Assist in Program to Improve Canning Plant Sanitation

As part of a program to accomplish marked improvement in plant sanitation, the National Cannerymen Association has been meeting with cannerymen in several sections of the country at conferences called by secretaries of State cannerymen's associations. The principal question considered has been the manner in which such improvement can be achieved and how the N. C. A. Laboratory can be of greatest help.

Meeting recently with Tri-State Packers Association members at Easton, Md., Dr. E. J. Cameron, Director of the N. C. A. Research Division, told cannerymen about a preliminary survey of 14 canneries in which N. C. A. representatives participated, reported on the program being conducted by the West Coast Branch of the Research Division which involves inspection by members of the Laboratory staff and establishment of courses in cannery sanitation, and announced that statements will be forthcoming from N. C. A. on plans for the cannery industry and on special studies directed to plant clean-up. Following is the principal section of Dr. Cameron's statement:

This is the sixth of a series of meetings which have been held in the mid-West and East to consider this problem. Previous meetings were held in Maine, New York, Michigan, Wisconsin, and Minnesota. All meetings were called by the Secretaries of the State associations and it was within their discretion to decide who should be in attendance. In all cases there was a very definite interest in the subject and we obtained many suggestions about the part we might play in the general program. In this connection we emphasized that, unlike the program scheduled for the Western section of the country, we could not undertake to make wholesale inspections of cannery plants in the East, mid-West and South. Without a very large staff of sanitarians such a job would be impossible. Aside from this, we would have no right to make inspections except where they were requested and if this plan were followed through we have more than a suspicion

that the requests would come from cannerymen who needed least attention. Therefore, any activity on our part will be conditioned in major part by local situations.

Among the five States which we visited, two of the regional cannerymen's groups had standing sanitation committees and the other three appointed sanitation committees subsequent to the meetings. In three instances State officials had been invited who presented their views concerning the status of sanitation in the cannery plants under the control of their departments. Each group was in favor of setting up short courses to be attended by cannery representatives who would be responsible for conditions in their organizations. We have been asked to take part in inspections in three of the States, two of them suggesting that an N. C. A. representative accompany a State official on inspections. In the other case Mr. N. H. Sanborn, of the Laboratory, will make inspections with the State association Sanitation Committee. This illustrates to a degree the general trend of our discussions to the present time and, I think, the reasonableness of the plan to have the N. C. A. work individually with the regional cannerymen's groups.

Our present plan is to extend these discussions to other sections of the country and to assist in sanitation programs to the extent that it is practicable to do it. We will inform ourselves in regard to State laws and sanitary codes applying to the cannery industry. Two members of the staff will give essentially full-time to matters relating to the sanitation project and two will give part-time to it. We will attempt to assist in the establishment of small schools for sanitation supervisors and we will assist in making spot inspections with people delegated by cannerymen's groups. Information of a practical nature will be gathered together and published and distributed through the industry. When our ideas have crystallized, we will undoubtedly find that this program has broadened and that it has become a continuing activity of the Laboratory.

Glass Container Orders for West Coast Packers Extended

To ensure West Coast food processors an adequate supply of both wide and narrow-mouth glass containers during the perishable fruit and vegetable season, the Office of Price Administration has issued Amendment 9 to MPR 382 and Amendment 90 to Order A-1 of MPR 188 to extend their duration from July 31 to September 30. These regulations require eastern manufacturers of wide and narrow-mouth glass containers to ship a portion of their production to West Coast areas in order to alleviate the container shortage in that area.

Western processors have appealed for extension of the order, pointing out that the demand for both wide and narrow-mouth containers continues to exceed the available supply, and warning that food processing might be reduced during August and September as a consequence. The War Food Administration and the War Production Board had joined them in the request to OPA.

"In view of the present food situation, it is important that sufficient containers be made available to packers on the West Coast," the OPA said. Although the extension is only for two months, the agency will in the meantime study the glass container situation with respect to the western area "with a view to possible further extension."

"V-Sleeve" Restriction Eased

Limitation on the manufacture of "sleeves" for V-boxes for packaging canned fruits and vegetables was removed July 23 by the War Production Board. An amendment to Direction 7 to M-290 effects this change, WPB said.

The limitation was originally issued to spread the purchase of "sleeves" over a longer period of time than is normal practice, in order to prevent the tying up of stocks of critical container-board. However, the current requirements of the Army Quartermaster Corps made it impractical to continue this part of Direction 7, Paperboard Division officials explained.

Attention was called to the fact that limitations on the manufacture of V-boxes and sleeves, contained in Paragraphs b, c and d of Direction 7, remain in full effect.

Surplus Trucks Made Available

Areas in 14 States where more than 800 surplus Army trucks are to be sold to assist in critical harvesting activities,

were announced July 26 by the Surplus Property Board. Authority for disposal of the trucks and the manner of distribution are outlined in 11 orders issued by the Board under Regulation No. 3. They specify the number and type of trucks to be distributed to farmers in Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, Virginia, Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Arkansas, North Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Colorado, Wyoming, and Washington.

Trailer Production Increased

An additional 8,084 commercial truck trailers, including reserves, have been authorized for production in the second half of 1945, the War Production Board said July 23. WPB said that these additional trailers bring the total rated program for the second half of 1945 to 18,696.

Lifting of Fiber Shipping Container Controls Is Urged

Removal of controls over the manufacture, delivery and use of fiber shipping containers, and the discontinuance of preference ratings for this type of container, except for military use, were recommended at a recent joint meeting of the Containerboard and Fiber Box Industry Advisory Committees, the War Production Board reported July 26.

Such action would involve the revocation of fiber box limitation order (L-317), with the exception of its inventory provisions, as well as revocation of P-146—the fiber shipping container preference rating order, which assigns AA ratings for specific purposes. It would mean, however, retention of MM ratings for military use, it was explained.

Evaporated Milk for Sale

The U. S. Department of Agriculture is offering for sale by competitive bid approximately 33,000 cases of evaporated milk processed in 1942.

All milk sold is to be used only for manufacturing purposes, and purchasers must give assurance that it will not be used for any other purpose. No ration points will be required. Packed 48, 14½-ounce cans to the case, the milk is stored in various warehouses throughout the United States.

Bids will be received not later than 9 a. m., Eastern War Time, August 2, by the Contract and Adjustments Division, Sales Branch, Office of Supply, CCC, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

Unrated Orders for Stainless Steel Now Permitted by WLB

Manufacturers and steel warehouses will now be permitted to place unrated orders for stainless steel, which completes the "open-ending" of the Controlled Materials Plan, the War Production Board has announced. This action resulted from a drop in military and foreign requirements and a freer supply of nickel, WPB said.

Stainless steel now will be available for unrated orders to the extent that alloys and mill capacity will be available after filling CMP orders, WPB said. Direction 2 to the steel order (M-21), which prohibited the placing of unrated orders for stainless steel, was revoked. The relaxation was effected for steel warehouses through amendment of CMP Regulation No. 4.

At the same time, WPB revoked order M-6-b and Direction 1 to that order, which controlled the end uses of nickel and nickel solutions, respectively. (Most stainless steels contain about eight per cent nickel.) WPB reported, however, that Order M-6-a, which controls the allocation of nickel, will remain in effect.

Farm Loan Forgiveness Raised

The Senate has passed and sent to the House a bill (S. 230) by Senator Langer of North Dakota, which will extend the same provisions of debt forgiveness to holders of loans in excess of \$1,000 made before June 30, 1940, as is presently extended to those of less than \$1,000. The forgiveness is restricted to loans made because of drought, rural rehabilitation requirements, or emergency relief needs, and loans can be compromised only if it can be shown that the indebtedness has been due and payable for 5 years or more and that the debtor has acted in good faith but is unable to fulfill the obligation.

Two OMF Branches Are Merged

Two of the branches of the Office of Materials and Facilities will be combined August 1. On that date, Dr. Guy F. MacLeod leaves his position as chief of the Chemicals and Fertilizers Branch to enter private business and the branch will become a division of the Farm Machinery and Supplies Branch, headed by L. B. Taylor. Under the new arrangement, the Office of Materials and Facilities, under the direction of Frederic B. Northrup, is now composed of three branches: Containers and Packaging, Program, and Farm Machinery and Supplies.

RULES ESTABLISHED FOR LIFTING PRICE CONTROLS

Food Products not now Affected; OES Directive Outlines Basic Procedure Planned

Economic Stabilization Director William H. Davis has issued Directive No. 68 authorizing the Office of Price Administration to lift price controls "whenever in its judgment such action will not result in an increase of prices above the general level of existing ceilings for the commodity." If after a reasonable period, the Price Administrator is satisfied that prices of the commodity on which controls have been suspended will not rise, he is authorized under the directive to exempt the commodity from price control entirely.

In a joint announcement of the directive, the Office of Economic Stabilization and the Office of Price Administration said the plan "sets up a procedure for removal of controls in less important fields" and will "clear the decks for speedier handling of reconversion pricing problems."

Price Administrator Bowles warned, however, that plans to lift ceilings on some items "do not mean that suspension or termination of controls on major items in the American economy are contemplated at this time."

"Firm and steady controls," the Administrator said, "cannot be relaxed on food items, clothing, fuels, other important costs of living commodities or rents where higher prices might result from suspensions or exemptions."

Since it sets up the basic principles covering removal of price controls, the text of Directive 68 which became effective July 25, is reproduced here, despite the fact that food items are not now affected, according to Mr. Bowles' statement:

Pursuant to the authority vested in me by the Act of October 2, 1942, entitled "An Act to Amend the Emergency Price Control Act of 1942, to Aid in Preventing Inflation, and for Other Purposes," and by Executive Order No. 9280 of October 3, 1942, and Executive Order No. 9328 of April 8, 1943, it is ordered:

Section 1. The Price Administrator is authorized to suspend price control with respect to any commodity, upon such terms and conditions as he deems appropriate, whenever in his judgment such action will not result in an increase in prices above the general level of existing ceilings for the commodity. If after such suspension, prices for the commodity rise or threaten to rise above the level of pre-existing ceilings, the suspension shall be terminated and such ceilings reinstated. If after a reasonable period of suspension, prices for the commodity do not rise or

threaten to rise and the Price Administrator is satisfied that they will not do so, he may exempt the commodity from price control. Any proposed action by the Price Administrator under this section suspending or exempting a commodity which enters significantly into the cost of living shall be submitted to the Director of Economic Stabilization five days in advance of issuance in order that the Director may examine the relationship of the proposed action to other elements in the stabilization program; such action may be issued by the Price Administrator upon expiration of the five-day period unless previously disapproved by the Director.

Section 2. The Price Administrator is authorized to suspend price control with respect to any commodity or transaction, or in his discretion, to exempt the commodity or transaction from price control, in the following classes of cases not falling within Section 1 of this directive:

(a) In the case of any commodity if in the judgment of the Price Administrator:

(1) The commodity does not enter significantly into the cost of living or into business costs; and

(2) Control of the commodity involves administrative difficulties which are disproportionate in relation to the effectiveness of the control or the contribution to stabilization; and

(3) Suspension of control with respect to the commodity, or exemption from control, presents no threat of diversion of materials, facilities, or manpower from war production or any substantial diversion from the production of other commodities and does not impair effective price control with respect to other commodities; or

(b) In the case of any special type of transaction if in the judgment of the Price Administrator the sales involved are in the aggregate insignificant in the economy and their control involves administrative difficulties which are disproportionate in relation to the effectiveness of the control or the contribution to stabilization.

Section 3. The Price Administrator may recommend to the Economic Stabilization Director the suspension of price control with respect to any commodity or transaction, or the exemption of a commodity or transaction from price control, in any specific case, not falling within Section 1 or Section 2 of this directive, in which in his judgment such action is not inconsistent with the purposes of the stabilization laws.

Section 4. Nothing in this directive shall be construed to impair the authority of the Price Administrator to reduce ceiling prices for any commodity or transaction in any case in which, prior to the issuance of this directive, such action was authorized by the stabilization

laws and the executive orders issued thereunder. Nothing in this directive shall be construed to dispense with the requirement of approval by the Secretary of Agriculture in any case in which such approval is required by law.

Certain U. S. Food Sales Made Exempt from Price Controls

Government sales of food to prime contractors have been exempted from price control in cases where the food is to be used in fulfilling the requirements of a contract with the Government.

The action by the Office of Price Administration, effective July 31, 1945, was taken at the request of the Office of the Quartermaster General of the Army Service Forces. The purpose of the exemption is to simplify and expedite operations when the Quartermaster Corps sells one or more components of a food product to prime contractors for processing and the contractors sell the finished product to the Government.

Exempting the sales of the components part from price control will make it possible for the Quartermaster Corps to establish selling prices to prime contractors on either a uniform nationwide or area-wide basis, OPA stated.

Since the Government will sell the food components to the contractor and purchase the processed or completed food from him, direct final control of both the sale and purchase price will be retained by the procurement agency.

The exemption was effected by Amendment 4 to Supplementary Order 81.

Sweet Corn Breeding in Maine

The primary objective of the breeding program with sweet corn in Maine is to develop high quality canning type hybrids suitable for the Maine industry, according to a report of the Maine Agricultural Experiment Station for the year ending June 30, 1944. The use of adapted hybrids is an important factor in economical production and in obtaining high quality. It is estimated that more than 90 per cent of the sweet corn acreage planted for canning is now grown from hybridized seed. Ten years ago, practically none was used.

The Maine Cannery Association, aided by technical assistance of the Maine Agricultural Experiment Station, produces one-fourth to one-third of the seed required to plant the canning acreage of the State. The yellow hybrids most extensively used and listed in order of maturity season are Carmelcross, Seneca Golden, Maine Cannery Early Hybrid, Maine Tricross, Purdue 1339 Topcrosses.

Fish Information Office Opens

A new office for the dissemination of daily market information on supplies and shipments of fish and fishery products will be opened about August 1 in San Pedro, Calif., Charles E. Jackson, Assistant Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service, announced July 22.

The Fish and Wildlife Service now operates similar Market News Offices in Boston, New York, Jacksonville, New Orleans, Chicago, and Seattle, Mr. Jackson said, but up to now has had no coverage for the large fisheries of the southern Pacific coast, although more than a fourth of the total United States fishery production is landed at California ports.

Harry Hinkle will be in immediate charge of the Market News Office, under the general supervision of C. B. Tondick, who also supervises the collection of general statistics for the Fish and Wildlife Service in the California area.

Tuna Landings up 20 Per Cent

Landings of tuna at California ports during the first half of 1945 were nearly 20 per cent higher than for the same period in 1944, the Office of the Coordinator of Fisheries reports. They totaled 63,467,456 pounds for the first six months of 1945. In the like period of 1944 landings were 52,948,535.

Landings in June of 21,804,917 pounds were almost twice as large as landings in June 1944.

The tuna pack for the first half of the year totaled 1,367,006 standard cases. By varieties the pack was as follows: Albacore, 1,448 cases; bonito, 1,921; bluefin, 132,006; striped, 82,253; yellowfin, 748,112; yellowtail, 979; flakes, 308,239; tonno style, 2,018.

Mackerel landings were down for the period from 7,807,925 pounds for the first half of 1944, to 5,952,075. The pack as of the end of June had reached 61,050 standard cases.

Oyster Bed Relief Bill

Representative Colmer of Mississippi introduced a bill (H. R. 3888) late last week authorizing an appropriation of \$3,000,000 to enable the Secretary of War to (1) rehabilitate and replant oyster beds destroyed or damaged by the opening of the Bonnet Carre spillway into Lake Ponchartrain and (2) to make reparation for destruction and damage to the States of Mississippi and Louisiana and to other growers and private owners whose oyster beds were destroyed. The bill was sent to the House Flood Control Committee.

Alaska Salmon Pack Report

The following table, prepared from statistics compiled by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, shows the pack of Alaska canned salmon, by regions and varieties, through July 14, 1945, as compared with a similar period in 1944:

Districts	July 14, 1945	July 15, 1944
	Cases	Cases
Western Alaska.....	533,578	826,177
Central Alaska.....	294,642	439,307
Southeastern Alaska..	59,385	174,154
Total.....	1,187,605	1,438,638
Species		
Red.....	807,320	1,101,521
Pink.....	202,153	107,651
Chum.....	140,279	191,029
Coho.....	7,816	10,346
King.....	30,037	28,111
Total.....	1,187,605	1,438,638

Fish Tackle Ceilings Removed

Price ceilings on all fishing tackle except rods, reels and non-metallic lines and nets have been lifted by the Office of Price Administration through the issuance of amendment 21 to Supplementary Order 45.

Under its terms, fishing tackle includes such items as metallic lines and hooks, snelled-hooks, stringers, sealers, floats, sinkers, and swivels.

AA-1 Rating for Marine Paints

A rating of AA-1 has been assigned for the components of marine paints to be used as maintenance, repair and operating supplies for fishing vessels operating in salt water, the War Production Board reported July 23. This was effected by an amendment to Order P-65, governing marine paints.

Formerly, use of the priority rating for the components of marine paints was limited to vessels owned, operated or chartered by the Army, Navy, United States Maritime Commission or War Shipping Administration.

Interpretation of "Processor"

The Association is advised by Jonathan B. Richards, assistant general counsel of the Office of Price Administration, that the following interpretation has been issued under Maximum Price Regulation No. 425:

"Processor. A person who buys fresh fruits, vegetables or berries and has them custom-packed or toll-packed for him by another, is a processor, within the meaning of the Regulation."

Hake, Pollock, Cusk Removed from Fish-Flake Set-Aside

Removal of the 100 per cent set-aside restrictions on canned fish flakes produced from hake, pollock and cusk is announced by the United States Department of Agriculture. Action was taken in amendment No. 11 to War Food Order 44, which became effective July 27.

A previous amendment to the set-aside order, effective May 20, and reported in INFORMATION LETTER No. 1037, page 8629, placed fish flakes produced from cod, haddock, hake, pollock and cusk under 100 per cent set-aside. Since that time requirements for the three latter species have been lifted. Cod and haddock, however, remain under restrictions of the order. Partial text of Amendment 11 follows:

War Food Order No. 44, as amended is further amended by deleting from §1465.20 (b) (1) the provisions contained in Class 10 and inserting, in lieu thereof, the following:

"Class 10. Cod (*Gadus callarias*) or haddock (*Melogrammus aeglefinus*) when processed and canned as the commercial product commonly known and sold under the name of fish flakes. (For the period May 20, 1945, to March 31, 1946, inclusive)."

Farm Wages Reach New High

Farm wage rates climbed to a new high on July 1, while the number of hired workers employed on farms declined to a new low, according to a statement issued by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Farm employment was down 2 per cent from a year earlier while average monthly wage rates were up by \$8.30 to \$89.60.

Total farm employment on July 1 added up to 11,100,000 persons. Despite the usual seasonal increase from the low level of the previous month, employment was significantly below the 11,355,000 people working on July 1 a year ago, and the July, 1935-39 average of 12,458,000. In New England, the Middle Atlantic, and East South Central States farm employment was a little higher than a year ago, but all other regions were down from last July 1 except the Pacific, which was unchanged, according to the report.

Farm wage rates on July 1 in the Mountain States showed the largest increase from April 1 for any region. The wage rate index rose 26 points from April 1 to July 1, to reach 331 per cent of the 1910-14 average. However, the increase from July 1, 1944, to April 1, 1945, was only 3 points, much smaller than for any other region.

SENATE VOTES FOR FAO

(Concluded from page 8709)

come members of the Organization. They are Australia, Belgium, China, Dominican Republic, Czechoslovakia, Egypt, France, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, India, Liberia, Mexico, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Philippines, Poland, and the United Kingdom.

Functions of the Organization

In article I of the constitution of FAO, the functions of the Organization were specifically described:

1. The Organization shall collect, analyze, interpret, and disseminate information relating to nutrition, food, and agriculture.

2. The Organization shall promote and, where appropriate, shall recommend national and international action with respect to—

(a) Scientific, technological, social, and economic research relating to nutrition, food, and agriculture;

(b) The improvement of education and administration relating to nutrition, food, and agriculture, and the spread of public knowledge of nutritional and agricultural science and practice;

(c) The conservation of natural resources and the adoption of improved methods of agricultural production;

(d) The improvement of the processing, marketing, and distribution of food and agricultural products;

(e) The adoption of policies for the provision of adequate agricultural credit, national and international;

(f) The adoption of international policies with respect to agricultural commodity arrangements.

3. It shall also be the function of the Organization—

(a) To furnish such technical assistance as governments may request;

(b) To organize, in cooperation with the governments concerned, such missions as may be needed to assist them to fulfill the obligations arising from their acceptance of the recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Food and Agriculture; and

(c) Generally to take all necessary and appropriate action to implement the purposes of the Organization as set forth in the preamble.

In this Constitution the term "agriculture" and its derivatives include fisheries, marine products, forestry, and primary forestry products.

How the Organization Would Operate

Primarily, the proposed Food and Agriculture Organization would be a world-wide instrumentality for pooling the best knowledge and experience relating to nutrition, agricultural production and marketing, and the best use of farm, fishery, and forestry resources.

The Organization would afford a forum for discussing all manner of problems relating to both policy and practice in the fields of food and agriculture. Also, the permanent staff of the Organization would continually be collecting, analyzing, and disseminating statistical and technical information so that discoveries made and methods developed in any one part of the world may be utilized for the benefit of people everywhere in as short a time as possible.

The Organization has no authority over the governments of its members. It is strictly a fact-finding and advisory body. Therefore, the Organization will not in itself take action to put any of its recommendations into effect, or to actually utilize any of the new information which it makes available to its members. Those are things which will be done by the individual governments or their citizens.

Structure of the Organization

As provided in its proposed constitution, the Food and Agriculture Organization has an extremely simple structure. There is to be a representative conference, an executive committee, a director general, and a permanent staff. In the representative council each nation, whether it be large or small, has one vote. Each of the 44 countries that were represented at the Hot Springs Conference and on the Interim Commission may become members of the permanent organization simply upon accepting its constitution. Other countries may be admitted upon the concurrence of two-thirds of the Organization's total membership.

Relationship With Other Organizations

In the matter of relationship with other international organizations, one situation requires special attention. This is the relationship between the Food and Agriculture Organization and the International Institute of Agriculture at Rome. That Institute, in which the United States has held membership since 1907, has always had a more limited scope than is projected for the Food and Agriculture Organization. It has been limited both in the scale of its operations and in its concepts of the total problem of welfare of both the producers and consumers of food. From the outbreak of war until the liberation of Rome it was an Axis captive and its activities and staff withered away. The Committee on Foreign Affairs has examined this problem and finds itself in agreement that it will be more desirable to make a fresh start than to try to patch up and rebuild the International Institute.

Obligations of Membership

Membership in the Food and Agriculture Organization entails few obligations on the part of participating nations, and those few are simple.

The first of the four requirements

is that member nations make periodic reports on their activities in the fields of food and agriculture. These reports will be similar to those customarily made by the members of any international organization. Much of this responsibility could be discharged by making available to the Food and Agriculture Organization the great volume of statistical material normally produced for publication in this country. Occasionally special studies might also be needed by the Food and Agriculture Organization.

Second, each member nation would be required to contribute a proportionate share of the Organization's budget. For the first year the total budget of the Food and Agriculture Organization will be \$2,500,000. This country's share of that is 25 per cent, or \$625,000. During subsequent years, it is believed that the annual budget of the Organization may be in the neighborhood of \$5,000,000. Consequently, House Joint Resolution 145 would authorize the appropriation of annual sums, not to exceed \$1,250,000, that may be required as this Government's contribution to the expenses of the Organization. The committee amendment clarifies the intent that for the first fiscal year of the Organization, this Government's contribution is not to exceed \$625,000.

Third, each member government would be required to accord the Organization and its staff whatever diplomatic privileges are possible under its constitutional procedures. This is a question which the United States Government will doubtless consider in connection with other international organizations, as well as with the Food and Agriculture Organization. It seems likely that Congress will want to take up this subject as a whole rather than in the light of one particular organization.

Fourth, there is a requirement that the member nations respect the international character of the Organization's staff by not attempting to influence any of their nationals who may be selected for service on the staff.

Vinson and Snyder Take Office

Fred M. Vinson took the oath of office as Secretary of the Treasury and John M. Snyder was sworn in to succeed him as Director of War Mobilization and Reconversion in ceremonies in Washington on July 23. Report of Senate confirmation of both appointees was carried in last week's INFORMATION LETTER.

Canners Directory in Press

The 1945 edition of the Canners Directory is now in the hands of the printer and copies are expected to be available for distribution about the middle of August.

Rains Break Drought in Cuba; Hopes for Sugar Crop Revived

Recent heavy rains on the island of Cuba have broken that republic's worst drought in nearly a century and have revived hopes of sugar producers, the U. S. Department of Agriculture reports. The dry spell had lasted eight months and seriously damaged the vital 1946 sugar crop. The extent to which damage can be repaired, the Department declares, depends largely upon how much rain falls during the rest of the growing season.

Meanwhile, a serious food supply situation resulting from the drought continues with such commodities as canned milk, meat, and lard in very short position. Thus far the Cuban government's efforts to deal with the food shortage have been only partially successful, the Department asserts.

Cuban grapefruit exports will be small this fall as a result of the drought being forecast at only 50,000 crates. The sharpest decline has occurred on the Isle of Pines, and growers on that island are asking the United States Government to extend the reduced duty period for 15 days beyond October 1 to compensate for the lateness of the crop. As an alternative, they are suggesting that ceiling prices after that date be set at a level sufficiently high to permit entry of the crop into the United States even with an increased duty. About one-third of the crop will not be ready for market until October, reports from the island indicate.

In normal prewar years Cuban grapefruit exports to the United States averaged close to 150,000 crates per year, the USDA states.

Food Import Order Amended

To obtain a more equitable distribution of food supplies available to the United Nations—particularly to liberated European countries—the U. S. Department of Agriculture has revised WFO 63, effective July 20, 1945, to bring food import regulations in line with the current world food supply situation.

Since European countries are now able to obtain more foods by direct shipment from producing countries, it has been possible to reduce U. S. Lend-lease and other export shipments of foods which are in short supply. To channel such foods directly to consuming countries, USDA has continued previous controls on food imports and has extended controls on some additional items.

Now included on the list of foods under import control are tuna fish, crab meat, oysters, clams, lobsters, castor beans and castor oil, sugar-containing solutions, and sugar mixtures. Anchovies, whether canned or not, have been removed from the controlled items.

WFO 63 also controls the importation of all sugar-containing products, composed of 50 per cent or more by weight of sugar, regardless of type of transportation used in shipment to the U. S. Any import authorization may be revoked at any time by the Director of Supply, CCC, USDA. Termination date for all WPB import authorizations on food issued when such food was subject to WPB Order M-63, unless otherwise terminated, will be July 31, 1945.

Summary of Insect Infestation

In its summary of insect infestation for the week ending July 1, 1945, the Agricultural Research Administration of the U. S. Department of Agriculture publishes the following paragraphs on beans and peas:

Beans—Moderate to heavy infestations of the Mexican bean beetle occur in commercial plantings or in home gardens in parts of Virginia, Tennessee and Utah. Light to moderate numbers persist in parts of New York, Delaware, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Ohio, and Missouri. The potato leafhopper is numerous on beans and causing hopperburn on beans in some districts of New York, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Louisiana, Tennessee, Ohio, Wisconsin, and Missouri. Red spiders are sufficiently numerous on beans to constitute a pest in parts of New York, Virginia, and southern California. The pale-striped flea beetle is unusually abundant on beans in northwestern Tennessee.

Peas—Heavy infestations of the pea aphid are reported in a limited acreage of northwestern Wisconsin and in a restricted district of eastern Minnesota. A light to moderate infestation remains on late peas in Utah and in Waldo County, Maine. Low numbers of the pea aphid are present in the other districts reporting. Dusting operations for pea weevil control have been completed in Utah, Idaho, Washington, and Oregon.

Pioneer Virginia Canner Dies

Isaac Newton Dovel, 78, owner and proprietor of the Hawksbill Cannery, Luray, Va., died from heart attack July 20 following a week's illness. Mr. Dovel was one of the first canners in his section of Virginia. The business will be continued under the management of his son, J. Newton Dovel.

NAWGA Stresses Timeliness of Descriptive Labeling Plans

The National-American Wholesale Grocers' Association makes the statement that "now is the time to make progress on descriptive labeling". The following paragraph emphasizing the timeliness of such action appeared in their *News-Circular Service*:

Roy L. Davidson, chairman of the NAWGA Canners' Conference Committee reports that in recent conferences between canners, processors and food distributors the conviction was unanimous that all individual firms should immediately review their labeling policies and wherever possible start revising their labels in response to the descriptive labeling program. It is of the utmost importance that individual canners and distributors carefully review the uniform descriptive labeling program as endorsed and urged by the various National Trade Associations, including NAWGA. Unless all responsible factors study and adopt the uniform nomenclature recommended, it is apparent that neither individual brands nor consumers will reap the full benefits of descriptive labeling programs. Sufficient progress has now been made on descriptive labeling for canned corn, canned peas, green and wax beans and asparagus to warrant individual canners and wholesale grocers to revise their labels on these products, at the very earliest opportunity.

The grocers' bulletin urged its members to obtain from Happer Payne, Director of the Association's Labeling Division, copies of the "Manual for Canned Foods Labels" and "Individual Label Data Sheets for Certain Items."

Studies on Fertilizer Placement

Studies with vegetable crops during 1943-44 have shown that, as with other crops, it is important to know how fertilizer is best placed to get the most out of its benefits, the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering reports. In western Washington, for example, deep placement of fertilizer directly under the seed gave the highest yields of carrots, spinach, and Swiss chard. Gains in crop yields per acre from this placement, compared with the normal method of broadcasting the fertilizer, were over 4,000 pounds of carrots, 136 pounds of spinach seed, 3,300 pounds of cannery spinach, and 6,800 pounds of Swiss chard.

With peanuts under dry conditions in Virginia it was found, on the other hand, that yields were increased by placing the fertilizer in a band at each side of the row; placement immediately under the seed materially reduced the

yields. Cannery peas also produced the largest yields when the fertilizer was placed in a band 1 inch to the side of the row and slightly below the seed level. In New York State the highest yields of tomatoes were obtained when half the fertilizer was deeply placed in a band in each furrow at the time of planting and the other half placed in a band at each side of the row at the time of setting the plants. A similar system gave the best results with cabbage, two-thirds of the plant food in this case being applied in the bottom of the plow furrow. Yields for different placements of the fertilizer differed as much as 2 tons of cabbage per acre, showing the economic importance of proper placement.

REDUCED FRUIT CEILINGS (Concluded from page 8700)

Civilian Sales

For civilian sales processors will reduce their ceilings for Choice and Fancy fruit packed in light syrup by the amount of the reductions provided in the 1944 regulation. There will be no division in the price for different weights of light syrup. In the case of Choice Yellow Cling Peaches, for example, this differential will be 8 cents per dozen No. 2½ cans.

It is expected that the retail ceiling price for Fancy fruits packed in light syrup will be about 2 cents less for a No. 2½ can than the ceiling price for the same fruit packed in extra heavy syrup last year.

It is also expected that the retail ceiling price for Choice fruits packed in light syrup will be about a cent less for a No. 2½ can than the ceiling price for the same fruit packed in heavy syrup last year.

In the event that the range of syrup and the grade of fruit correspond, there will be no adjustment for sugar differentials in processors' ceiling prices, the OPA said. This applies to California cling peaches, Bartlett pears, apricots, and other products covered by Pricing Method No. 1 (Supplement 7, Food Products Regulation No. 1).

Sales to Procurement Agencies

Processors of products priced under Pricing Method No. 1 will be required to divide that portion of the pack of a product sold to government procurement agencies into two ranges of light syrup, and will obtain a higher price for that part of their pack that is in the heavier range of light syrup, OPA said,

than for that part of the pack in the lighter bracket of light syrup.

The provision for two ranges of light syrup is in line with a request by procurement agencies that canners be given incentive to make the syrup as heavy as the sugar content of the fruit and the canners' "per unit" sugar rations will permit.

For pricing purposes only, OPA has recognized two brackets of "light" syrup. In the case of Cling Peaches "light" light syrup would have a Brix range from 14 degrees to 15.94 degrees. For "heavy" light syrup, the Brix range is from 15.95 degrees to 18.94 degrees.

The "cut out Brix" varies with light syrups for different fruits. Ranges similar to those provided for yellow cling peaches will be provided for the two brackets of light syrup for each variety of fruit.

The plan for sales to government agencies works like this:

When the processor sells his output of Choice yellow cling peaches, he will receive 8 cents a dozen cans less for the fruit in the "light" light syrup with a cut out Brix ranging from 14 to 15.94 degrees than he obtained for the same fruit in heavy syrup last year. He will receive 5 cents a dozen cans less for the Choice fruit in "heavy" light syrup with a cut out Brix ranging from 15.95 to 18.9 degrees than he received last year for the same fruit in heavy syrup.

For minor fruits such as freestone peaches and many kinds of berries priced under Pricing Method No. 2 dollar and cent differentials will be provided, but no division in the price for different weights of light syrup will be given. For other minor fruits, the canner will substitute cost per dozen cans of allowable sugar in 1945 for the cost of sugar used in 1944.

The changes will be reflected in processors' ceiling prices established for the 1945 pack.

Test Shows Effect of Grades upon Yields of Tomato Plants

Considerable interest has been shown by both growers and buyers in the new grades that have been established in the U. S. Department of Agriculture for tomato plants, according to the report of the Georgia Coastal Plain Experiment Station for 1943-44. While yield data in Georgia are not comparable to those of the northern tomato growing States, it is stated in this report that they indicate the relative yielding abil-

ity of tomato plants of different sizes when set at the same time and grown under similar conditions.

Lots of Rutgers tomato plants were pulled from a commercial field and graded as follows: (1) U. S. No. 1 grade (6 to 9 inches tall; minimum diameter 3/16 inch), (2) Large U. S. No. 1 plants, (3) Small U. S. No. 1 plants, (4) Plants larger than U. S. No. 1 and (5) Plants smaller than U. S. No. 1.

These were planted in 3½ foot rows, 50 plants per row, and each group was replicated five times. Harvests were started when fruits were full ripe and were continued at four- and seven-day intervals until the vines were dead.

The data from this test indicate that early yields were significantly greater on the large plants than on the small. This was true even in the cases of numbers 2 and 3, which were subdivisions of U. S. No. 1, indicating that plants slightly larger than the present U. S. No. 1 may be used to an advantage. Of particular importance, however, was the consistently low yields of number 5. Apparently tomato plants smaller than the present U. S. No. 1 grade are definitely inferior to U. S. No. 1 grade in yielding ability when transplanted under the conditions of this test.

Florida Citrus Growers and Shippers Committee is Named

Members and alternates of the growers administrative and shippers advisory committees were named July 25 by the U. S. Department of Agriculture to serve under the Florida citrus marketing agreement and order program during the year beginning August 1, 1945, and ending July 31, 1946.

Membership of the committees is the same for the previous year except for two new members and three alternates on the growers administrative committee and two new alternate members on the shippers advisory committee. W. L. Story of Winter Garden and L. H. Kramer, Lake Wales, are new members of the growers administrative committee. R. H. Prine, Terra Ceia, T. C. Hawthorne, Ocoee, and Harry L. Askew, Lakeland, are the new alternates.

The new alternates on the shippers advisory committee are John T. Lesley, Haines City, and Arthur T. Edwards, Lakeland. Mr. Prine has served previously as alternate on the growers administrative committee, Mr. Hawthorne and Mr. Askew having served as members for the last several years.